

BETHEL SMALL GROUP QUESTIONS

Matthew 6:5–13 – 05/05/2024

STOP AND PRAY

Holy Spirit, open my heart and my mind to Your truth today! Then help me to be a Doer of the Word and not a Hearer only!

- 1) How have you found the practice of prayer in your life? What are some struggles we have in building a pattern of prayer in our lives?

Read Matthew 6:5–8

- 2) What are some of the examples Jesus tells us to avoid, and to follow? How does this influence not only our personal prayer lives, but our times of prayer together?

- 3) How do we pursue praying together while avoiding praying for publicity? How do we avoid pride when we pray together?

Read Matthew 6:9–10

- 4) What is special about the nature of prayer? How do these verses set a pattern for approaching God?

5) How should verse 10 shape our lives? How should it shape our prayers when we bring requests to God?

Read Matthew 6:11–13

6) What are some of the reasons that we come to God in prayer? What are some of the answers to prayer that God can give?

7) Jesus' focuses more on the relationship between us and God, rather than our earthly circumstances. How does that influence our prayers, as we still want to bring requests and worries to God?

8) What ways can we engage deeper into prayer this week, or engage for the first time? How does this passage influence my practice of prayer?

Take time to pray for each other.

Use this prayer as the theme of your prayer time: "*Father in Heaven, thank you for the Church! Thank you for making yourself approachable through prayer. Thank you for Christ who intercedes on our behalf in prayer. Help me to lean into the grace space of praying with my Church body. Guide us as a Church to seek your face in prayer so that you may guide us all the time!*"